

Message Text

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SUBJECT: ACTION PROGRAM OF NATIONAL RENEWAL REGIME

REF: OUAGA 346, 859, 1066

1. SUMMARY AND COMMENT. PRESIDENT LAMIZANA SET FORTH REGIME'S "ACTION PROGRAM" IN SPEECH MAY 30. SPEECH PRESAGES INCREASED RESTRICTIONS ON CIVIL LIBERTIES AND INCREASED GOVERNMENT INTERVENTION IN ECONOMY, WITH "CONTROL" A RECURRENT THEME STATE SECURITY COURT WILL CONTROL INDIVIDUALS, LABOR UNIONS, AND PRESS; SPECIAL COUNCILS WILL MANAGE INFORMATION, YOUTH, SPORTS, WOMEN'S ORGANIZATIONS, AND CULTURE; AND VARIOUS GOVERNMENT ORGANS ARE TO HANDLE MARKETING OF GRAIN AND SOME OTHER PRODUCTS, CONTROL PRICES, AND ENCOURAGE VOLTANIZATION OF BUSINESSES. POLITICALLY, OLD PARTIES ARE FORMALLY ABOLISHED, AND CONSULTATIVE COUNCIL WILL REPLACE OLD PARLIAMENT.

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HOWEVER, NO STEPS ANNOUNCED TO TRANSFORM PUTATIVE "NATIONAL RENEWAL MOVEMENT" INTO A POLITICAL PARTY. LOCAL GOVERNMENT WILL BE ORGANIZED UNDER NEW MILITARY PREFECTS. OVERTONES OF "AUTHENTICITY" APPEAR AT A NUM-

BER OF POINTS, NOTABLY IN DISCUSSING EDUCATION. IN FOREIGN POLICY, GOUV WILL SEEK INCREASED AID FROM OLD AND NEW SOURCES AND WILL REVISE COOPERATION AGREEMENTS WITH FRANCE. OF COURSE, BEHIND WHOLE SPEECH IS UPPER VOLTA'S DEEP NEED FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND RECOVERY FROM DROUGHT.

A. POLITICAL

2. IN THIRTY-PAGE SPEECH TO NATION, PRESIDENT LAIZANA DESCRIBED "ACTION PROGRAM" EMBODYING LEADING POLICY DECISIONS, FOLLOWING ON HIS FEB 23 SPEECH. HE ANNOUNCED ABOLITION OF POLITICAL PARTIES, FORMALIZING PROHIBITION OF POLITICAL ACTIVITIES ANNOUNCED FEB 8. HE SAID RENEWAL MOVEMENT ("MOUVEMENT POUR LE RENEOUVEAU"), WOULD COMPRISE ALL VOLTAN PEOPLES AND WOULD FUNCTION THROUGH NATIONAL RENEWAL GOVERNMENT, NATIONAL RENEWAL CONSULTATIVE COUNCIL, AND REGIONAL AND LOCAL POLITICAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURES. CONSULTATIVE COUNCIL (REPLACING OLD NATIONAL ASSEMBLY) WILL BE INAUGURATED JULY 2. DID NOT SAY WHETHER PARTY-TYPE ORGANIZATION WOULD BE SET UP. (COMMENT: PERHAPS THAT WILL COME AT LATER STAGE.)

3. COUNTRY WILL BE DIVIDED INTO TEN DEPARTMENTS, LEADERSHIP OF WHICH WILL BE IN HAND OF MILITARY PREFECTS. LOCAL GOVERNMENTS (CIRCLES AND MUNICIPALITIES) WILL BE RESTRUCTURED. AS TO ARMY, COUNTRY WILL BE DIVIDED INTO DEFENSE ZONES AND MILITARY REGIONS. AT REGIONAL LEVEL ARMED FORCES WILL CARRY OUT SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC TASKS (CIVIL ACTION).

4. VARIOUS PASSAGES PRESAGED INCREASED RESTRICTIONS ON CIVIL LIBERTIES. SYSTEM OF JUSTICE WILL BE ADAPTED TO GIVE EFFECT TO DEMOCRATIC AND INDIVIDUAL LIBERTIES WHILE PROHIBITING THEM FROM ENDANGERING THE STATE. LIBERTY OF PRESS AND LABOR UNIONS IS AFFIRMED, BUT IT MAY ONLY BE EXERCISED WITHIN FRAMEWORK OF LAWS TO BE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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REVISED TO ENSURE ITS "HARMONIOUS" EXERCISE. THERE SHALL BE AN END TO CONTINUOUS LABOR DEMANDS AND CONFLICTS (COMMENT: FURTHER RESTRICTION ON RIGHT TO STRIKE). SINCE UNCOMPREHENDING ENJOYMENT OF FREEDOM MAY ENDANGER STATE SECURITY AND INTERESTS, STATE SECURITY COURT WILL BE CREATED.

5. YOUTH AND SPORTS ASSOCIATIONS WILL BE UNIFIED IN ORDER TO HAVE POLITICO-ADMINISTRATIVE INTEGRATION OF YOUTH WITH REGIME. WOMEN'S ASSOCIATIONS SHALL BE UNIFIED UNDER A NATIONAL ORGANIZATION, IN ORDER THAT WOMEN HAVE THEIR PROPER PLACE IN STATE POLITICO-ADMIN-

ISTRATIVE ORGANIZATIONS.

6. EDUCATION WILL BE ADAPTED TO "RESTORE AFRICAN PERSONALITY" AND TO BETTER PREPARE PEOPLE FOR ACTUAL WORK OPPORTUNITIES, ESPECIALLY IN RURAL SECTOR, BY REFORMING PRIMARY EDUCATION. SECONDARY SCHOOLS WILL RECEIVE SUITABLE CIVICS COURSE (COMMENT: INDOCTRINATION) AND SCHOOL REGULATIONS WILL BE REVISED TO CREATE CLIMATE OF CONFIDENCE (COMMENT: NO MORE STUDENT/TEACHERS STRIKES PLEASE). A NEW TECHNICAL SCHOOL IN BOBO AND A NEW NORMAL SCHOOL ARE PLANNED. BUT IN LONG TERM NEED TO DEVELOP "AUTHENTICALLY VOLTAN EDUCATION."

7. GOVERNMENT CONTROL OF INFORMATION MEDIA WILL BE STRENGTHENED IN ORDER ENSURE MASS SUPPORT FOR RENEWAL MOVEMENT. CULTURAL POLICY WILL ENCOURAGE PRIDE AND DIGNITY BASED ON TRADITIONAL VALUES, AND RADIO WILL MAKE GREATER USE OF LOCAL LANGUAGES.

B. ECONOMICS

8. WHILE PERMITTING PRIVATE INITIATIVE, GOVERNMENT WILL INTERVENE IN VITAL SECTORS. 1972-1976 FIVE-YEAR PLAN WILL BE REVISED, IN VIEW OF INFLATION AND DROUGHT. (COMMENT: PLAN, BASICALLY AN AID SHOPPING LIST, HAS NEVER FUNCTIONED TO ALLOCATE RESOURCES.) TO DEVELOP RURAL AREAS, EMPHASIS WILL BE PLACED ON COOPERATIVE MOVEMENT. (COMMENT: CO-OP MOVEMENT THUS FAR VERY WEAK.)

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9. REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATIONS (ORD'S) WILL BE RESTRUCTURED TO BETTER INTEGRATE SERVICES, WILL HAVE MONOPOLY OF PURCHASING GRAIN AND EXPORT PRODUCTS FROM FARMERS, AND WILL BE SUPPORTED BY BETTER RURAL CREDIT MECHANISM. INCREASED SUPPORT TO LIVESTOCK SECTOR WILL BE STUDIED.

10. IN COMMERCE, STATE WILL PROGRESSIVELY TAKE CONTROL OF DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN TRADE IN PRIMARY NECESSITIES (E.G. GRAIN). STATE WILL ALSO TAKE CONTROL OF MARKETING OF MAIN CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS, /NOTABLY CEMENT/. TRANSPORT (I.E. TRUCKERS) WILL BE CONTROLLED IN EFFORT TO REDUCE PRICE INFLATION. (COMMENT: IT LOOKS EXTREMELY DIFFICULT TO MANAGE A GRAIN MONOPOLY OR TO CONTROL TRUCKERS WITHOUT SERIOUS SIDE-EFFECTS: CONTROLLING EXPORT CROPS WILL BE LESS DIFFICULT, AND IS ALREADY STANDARD FOR COTTON; CONTROLLING CEMENT WILL BE EASY BUT OF LIMITED VALUE.)

11. IN INDUSTRY, EACH ENTERPRISE MUST PREPARE PLAN

FOR VOLTANIZATION OF PERSONNEL, AND GOVERNMENT WILL
HELP IMPLEMENT. PRICE CONTROL WILL BE STRENGTHENED.
INVESTMENT ADVANTAGES WILL NO LONGER BE GIVEN UNLESS
BENEFITS (VALUE ADDED) REMAINING IN COUNTRY ARE CLEARLY
SUPERIOR TO WHAT STATE AND CONSUMERS LOOSE, AND NO MORE
IMPORT-SUBSTITUTION MONOPOLIES WILL BE GRANTED.
(COMMENT: MONOPOLISTIC INDUSTRIES HAVE BEEN CRI-
TICIZED BECAUSE OFTEN RESULT IN HIGH PRICE TO CON-
SUMER AND LOSS OF REVENUE TO STATE.) CAPITAL OF
BUSINESS FIRMS SHOULD BE VOLTANIZED; HENCE GOUV WILL
MOBILIZE NATIONAL SAVINGS FOR USE IN INDUSTRIAL SECTOR.

12. BUDGETARY AUSTERITY WILL BE MAINTAINED. TAX ON
SALARIES WILL BE REVISED TO MAKE IT STEADILY PROGRESSIVE
(COMMENT: IT NOW HAS UNEVEN RATE JUMPS) AND TO REDUCE
TAX PRESSURES ON LOW SALARIES. RENTAL INCOME WILL BE
TAXED.

C. FOREIGN RELATIONS

13. GOUV WILL SEEK AUGMENT AID FROM OTHER COUNTRIES,
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BUT WILL REFUSE TO SELL ("BRADER") ITS HONOR; WILL SEEK
NEW AID SOURCES, INCLUDING ANY SOURCE WHICH RES-
PECTS VOLTAN SOVEREIGNTY AND INTERESTS. PRESIDENT
STRESSED INSISTANCE ON RESPECT AND CONSIDERATION, AND
GOUV NOT ORIENTED TOWARD ANY IDEOLOGICAL BLOC.

14. A NATIONAL COMMISSION WILL STUDY REVISION OF
COOPERATION AGREEMENTS WITH FRANCE, AND WILL SEEK NEW
AGREEMENTS WITH OTHER COUNTRIES.

15. REGIONALLY, GOUV MEMBERSHIP IN REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS
IS AS SOVEREIGN STATE AND NOT SATELLITE (COMMENT: IVORY COAST
TAKE NOTE).
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